

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A water-soluble resin having a structure corresponding to a copolymer of a monomer mixture containing a vinylic monomer (A) having a hydroxyl group and an amido bond, and a vinylic monomer (B) having a cationic group.

Claim 2 (Original): The water-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein the vinylic monomer (A) having a hydroxyl group and an amido bond is represented by the formula (1):

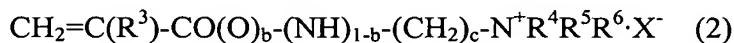


wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a methyl group; R^2 represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group or a hydroxyalkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; a is an integer from 1 to 4.

Claim 3 (Original): The water-soluble resin of claim 2, wherein a in the formula (1) is 2.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The water-soluble resin of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the vinylic monomer (A) having a hydroxyl group and an amido bond is hydroxyethyl acrylamide, or hydroxyethyl methacrylamide.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The water-soluble resin of ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein the vinylic monomer (B) having a cationic group is represented by the formula (2)



wherein R³ represents a hydrogen atom, or a methyl group; R⁴ and R⁵ each independently represent an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms; R⁶ represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, or CH₂-CH(OH)-CH₂-N⁺R⁷R⁸R⁹.Y⁻; R⁷ to R⁹ each independently represent an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms; X⁻ and Y⁻ each independently represent an anion; b represents 0, or 1; and c represents an integer from 1 to 10.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The water-soluble resin of ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein the vinylic monomer (B) having a cationic group is at least one selected from the group consisting of meth acroyloxyethyl-trimethylammonium chloride, acroylaminopropyl-trimethylammonium chloride, and meth acroylaminopropyl-trimethylammonium chloride.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The water-soluble resin of ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein the monomer mixture containing a vinylic monomer (A) having a hydroxyl group and an amido bond, and a vinylic monomer (B) having a cationic group contains 20 to 90% by weight of the vinylic monomer (A) having a hydroxyl group and an amido bond, and 10 to 80% by weight of the vinylic monomer (B) having a cationic group.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The water-soluble resin of ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein weight average molecular weight is 5,000 to 5,000,000.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The water-soluble resin of ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein the water soluble-resin can form an aqueous solution having a concentration of at least 5% by weight.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The water-soluble resin of ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein the vinylic monomer (A) having a hydroxyl group and an amido bond is hydroxyethyl acrylamide, and the vinylic monomer (B) having a cationic group is at least one selected from the group consisting of (meth)acroyloxyethyltrimethylammonium chloride, acroylaminopropyltrimethylammonium chloride, and (meth)acroylaminopropyltrimethylammonium chloride.

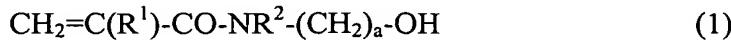
Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A hair cosmetic material containing the water-soluble resin of ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1.

Claim 12 (Original): The hair cosmetic material of claim 11, further containing an anionic surfactant.

Claim 13 (Original): The hair cosmetic material of claim 12, which is an aqueous solution containing 0.05 to 5% by weight of the water-soluble resin and 5 to 40% by weight of the anionic surfactant.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A silicone oil adsorption assistant comprising the water-soluble resin of ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1.

Claim 15 (New): The hair cosmetic material of claim 11, wherein the vinylic monomer (A) having a hydroxyl group and an amido bond is represented by the formula (1):



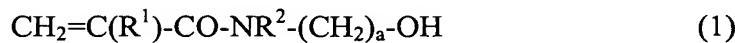
wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a methyl group; R^2 represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group or a hydroxyalkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; a is an integer from 1 to 4.

Claim 16 (New): The hair cosmetic material of claim 11, wherein the vinylic monomer (B) having a cationic group is represented by the formula (2):



wherein R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a methyl group; R^4 and R^5 each independently represent an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms; R^6 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, or $\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-\text{CH}_2-\text{N}^+\text{R}^7\text{R}^8\text{R}^9\cdot\text{Y}^-$; R^7 to R^9 each independently represent an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms; X^- and Y^- each independently represent an anion; b represents 0, or 1; and c represents an integer from 1 to 10.

Claim 17 (New): The silicone oil adsorption assistant of claim 14, wherein the vinylic monomer (A) having a hydroxyl group and an amido bond is represented by the formula (1):



wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a methyl group; R^2 represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group or a hydroxyalkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; a is an integer from 1 to 4.

Claim 18 (New): The silicone oil adsorption assistant of claim 14, wherein the vinylic monomer (B) having a cationic group is represented by the formula (2):



wherein R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a methyl group; R^4 and R^5 each independently represent an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms; R^6 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, or $\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-\text{CH}_2-\text{N}^+\text{R}^7\text{R}^8\text{R}^9\cdot\text{Y}^-$; R^7 to R^9 each independently represent an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms; X^- and Y^- each independently represent an anion; b represents 0, or 1; and c represents an integer from 1 to 10.

Claim 19 (New): The water-soluble resin of claim 2, wherein the vinylic monomer (B) having a cationic group is represented by the formula (2):



wherein R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a methyl group; R^4 and R^5 each independently represent an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms; R^6 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, or $\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-\text{CH}_2-\text{N}^+\text{R}^7\text{R}^8\text{R}^9\cdot\text{Y}^-$; R^7 to R^9 each independently represent an alkyl group or an aryl group or an aralkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms; X^- and Y^- each independently represent an anion; b represents 0, or 1; and c represents an integer from 1 to 10.